

Message Text

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40

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

IO-10 ORM-01 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OPR-02 A-01

EB-07 CIEP-01 OMB-01 SY-05 USSS-00 /087 W

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O R 161107Z AUG 75

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3997

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LUSKASA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

CINCLANT NORFOLK VA

CINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUANDA 1161

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PINS MILI AO

SUBJECT: ROUNDUP, 1100 HOURS AUGUST 16

1. THE ACTING HIGH COMMISSIONER TOLD ME THE MORNING OF AUGUST 16 THAT MPLA APPEARS TO HAVE WON IN LOBITO. FNLA HAS LEFT ITS GARRISONS AND UNITA LOOKS TO BE JUST ABOUT FINISHED. A SHIP CAPTAIN IN LUANDA TOLD ME LATE AUGUST 15 THAT HE HAD HEARD A STRAY MORTAR SHELL HIT A GERMAN SHIP IN LOBITO HARBOR AND THAT ALL VESSELS HAVE NOW LEFT THE HARBOR.

2. A JOURNALIST JUST BACK FROM SA DA BANDEIRA SAID THAT FIGHTING BROKE OUT THERE A FEW DAYS AGO WHEN UNITA AND FNLA AMBUSHED AND KILLED THE MPLA COMMANDER IN THE CITY. THE BATTLE, HEAVY AT TIMES, WAS INDECISIVE. THE PORTUGUESE MILITARY GOT ALL THREE COMMANDERS TO SHAKE HANDS AND GO BACK TO THEIR BARRACKS. EACH NOW ROAMS ITS OWN PART OF THE CITY. THE UNITA GARRISON IS DRUNK ALL THE TIME AND AS LONG AS PASSERSBY GIVE THEM MONEY
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FOR LIQUOR AND BEER THEY REMAIN QUIET.

3. THE JOURNALIST ALSO SPOKE TO A FEW OF THE 4,000 WHITE REFUGEES FROM THE MALANJE-SALAZAR REGION WHO WERE HEADING FOR SOUTHWEST AFRICA. AT THE TIME THEY WERE CAMPED IN THE PORTUGUESE BASE AT DA BANDEIRA. MOST HAD NO DEFINITE IDEA WHERE THEY WANTED TO GO, OR WHAT THEY WERE GOING TO DO. IN FACT, MOST WANTED TO STAY IN ANGOLA, BUT WERE SEIZED WITH A COLLECTIVE HYSTERIA THAT FORCED THEM TO KEEP MOVING. ALL KNEW ABOUT AND RECOUNTED STORIES OF ATROCITIES, SLAUGHTERS AND RAPES, BUT NONE HAD SEEN ANY.

4. WITH RESPECT TO SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS IN THE CUNENE DISTRICT, THE ACTING HIGH COMMISSIONER TOLD ME AUGUST 16 THAT PORTUGUESE MILITARY OFFICERS HAVE ESTABLISHED LIAISON WITH THE SOUTH AFRICANS TO WORK A MODUS OPERANDI TO PROTECT WORKERS AT CALUEQUE AND RUACANA.
KILLORAN

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